

Feb. 10, 1960

*Revised SYMINGTON*  
*x Sec 5 Comp & Cens*  
*x Ag 2*

UPI-90

ADD 1 DEFENSE

MEANWHILE, SEN. STUART SYMINGTON FIRED A NEW ROCKET IN THE POLITICAL WAR OVER DEFENSE SPENDING BY ACCUSING THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF "DISTORTING THE HISTORY OF THE 1940'S."

IT WAS THE MISSOURI DEMOCRAT'S REPLY TO A NATIONAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT PICTURING HIM AS THE ARCHITECT OF "THE LOST YEARS" IN THE U.S. MISSILE PROGRAM. THE GOP SAID SYMINGTON, AIR FORCE SECRETARY UNDER FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMAN, HAS ADOPTED MILITARY MATTERS AS THE "CORE FOR HIS FLOUNDERING CAMPAIGN FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION."

"DISTORTING THE HISTORY OF THE 1940'S WILL NOT CLOSE THE MISSILE GAP OF THE 1960'S OR STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION AT THE COMING SUMMIT CONFERENCES," SYMINGTON SAID, WHEN ASKED FOR COMMENT ON THE COMMENTS IN THE GOP PUBLICATION "BATTLE LINE."

SYMINGTON ISSUED THE STATEMENT AS A NEWS CONTROVERSY, OVER ALLEGED "LEAKS" OF INTELLIGENCE SECRETS, THREATENED TO OVERSHADOW THE FAMILIAR, ANNUAL WARFARE OVER THE STATE OF THE NATION'S DEFENSES.

TWO SENATE COMMITTEES WHICH HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING A JOINT INQUIRY INTO DEFENSE POLICIES WERE IN RECESS TODAY. CHAIRMAN LYNDON JOHNSON ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT THEY WOULD BE SUSPENDED UNTIL CIA DIRECTOR DULLES COULD RETURN TO CLEAR UP "CONFUSION."

THE "CONFUSION," IT BECAME TODAY, CENTERS ON THE STATEMENT OF GEN. NATHAN W. TWining THAT HE SAW NO CIA ESTIMATES OF RUSSIAN INTERCONTINENTAL MISSILES "ON LAUNCHERS" LAST YEAR. THAT RAN COUNTER TO SYMINGTON'S STATEMENT THAT CIA HAS THIS YEAR BOOSTED ITS ESTIMATE OF THE SOVIET "ON LAUNCHER" STRENGTH.

2/10--GE127P